

May 31, 2019

The Honorable Monique Limón California State Assembly 1020 N. St., Room 6031 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 470 (Limón) California Green Business Program

Dear Assemblymember Limón:

On behalf of the City Long Beach (City), I write in support of Assembly Bill 470 (Limón). This legislation proposes to establish and fund the California Green Business Program (Program) within the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Program is critical to funding several initiatives in the City of Long Beach (City), that promote green and sustainable business within our community.

The City is a member of the California Green Business Network. This means all Long Beach businesses have an opportunity to join a network of over 4,000 businesses across California committed to sustainability. This free program offers certification and recognition to all qualified businesses in Long Beach. Businesses that become certified receive a certificate, a window decal, rights to the Green Business logo, a listing on the California Green Business Network directory, promotion through City website and social media pages, and access to a network of like-minded sustainable businesses. It is a great economic development tool that supports a larger culture shift towards green businesses.

The City has been a long advocate for sustainable living. Long Beach became one of the first cities in California to ban single-use plastic bags in 2011. In 2018, the City began to phase out polystyrene, and in 2019, Long Beach became the first City to support SB 54 (Allen), which proposes to create the California Circular Economy and Plastic Pollution Reduction Act with the policy goal of achieving a 75-percent reduction of waste generated from single-use packaging and products offered for sale or sold in the state through source reduction, recycling, or composting. As a coastal city, we truly value policies that protect the environment, while also supporting green business practices.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 470 (Limón).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly

The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District

The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District

The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District

The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District